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(54) BEARER SERVICE IN COMMUNICATIONS

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(57) ABSTRACT

A method for providing a bearer service in a communications system is disclosed. The method includes establishing a radio bearer service between a network apparatus and a user terminal, for transmitting messages over an air interface, such that a point-to-point radio bearer is to be used for transmitting unicast messages and its associated shared point-to-multipoint broadcast radio bearer in downlink is to be used for transmitting one or more of broadcast and multicast messages from a local IP network via the network apparatus to user terminals. Messages received from the point-to-point radio bearer and its associated point-to-multipoint broadcast radio bearer in downlink are combinable in the user terminal to a single connection emulating one or more of a broadcast and multicast capable media respectively over the air interface.

